

Phase 1 – Significant People of the Past

Christopher Columbus

Who was he?

Christopher Columbus was a navigator and an explorer.



What did he do?

He wanted to find a quicker way to get to Asia. In 1492, Columbus and 90 men sailed on ships that were called the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria. They sailed for two months. Columbus thought that he was sailing to Asia. Instead of arriving in Asia, Columbus landed in the area that today we call the Caribbean Islands.

What impact did he have on the world?

Columbus helped us find out about new parts of the world. However, he also made some wrong choices that we need to learn from so that we don't repeat the mistakes of the past. The Indigenous people who lived in the Caribbean were friendly and willing to trade items but they did not like that Columbus wanted to claim their land for Spain. Columbus took some of them as prisoners back to Spain with him to become slaves.

Sir Tim Berners-Lee

Who is he?

Sir Tim Berners-Lee is a British computer scientist and software engineer.



What did he do?

In 1980, Sir Tim Berners-Lee developed a program called ENQUIRE. This allowed scientists to link documents together and share them around the world.

What impact has he had on the world?

In 1989, Sir Tim Berners-Lee invented the **World Wide Web** using some of the ideas from ENQUIRE. The World Wide Web links computers around the world. It can be used to search for and share information. The World Wide Web makes it easy for people to share text, video and audio on the Internet quickly and easily.

Key Vocabulary



SIGNIFICANT: Something important.



EXPLORER: Someone who travels to new places.



DISCOVERY: Finding about about something new.



INVENTION: A machine or system that is created by someone.



ACTIVIST: A person who works hard to change something that is wrong.



SEGREGATION: When people are kept apart because of differences.



LEGACY: The impact a person has on the world that lasts forever.



SUFFRAGETTE: A woman who campaigned for women to be able to vote.

Emmeline Pankhurst

Who was she?

Emmeline Pankhurst set up the Women's Franchise League in 1889. She wanted women over 30 years old in Britain to be allowed to vote. In 1903, she helped to set up a group called the Woman's Social and Political Union. Members of this group were called suffragettes.

What did she do?

The suffragettes marched in the streets, published a newspaper and made speeches. Some suffragettes interrupted meetings, broke windows and went on hunger strikes. Many people were shocked by their behaviour. Emmeline Pankhurst and other suffragettes were arrested for protesting.

What impact did she have on the world?

After the First World War ended in 1918, women over 30 years old were given the right to vote. This was still not equal because the voting age for men was 21. In 1928, the law was changed to give men and woman equal voting rights.



Rosa Parks

Who was she?

Rosa Parks lived in North America. Where she lived, black children weren't allowed to go to school with white children.

What did she do?

When Rosa grew up, she saw black people being treated unfairly all around her. She realised that black adults were separated from white adults too. Black people weren't allowed to use the same buildings as white people. Rosa wanted to change this. On 1st December 1955, she refused to give up her seat to a white person on a bus. She was arrested and jailed for breaking the rules.

What impact did she have on the world?

Black people across the city heard about Rosa Parks' arrest. They stopped riding on the buses for a year until the law was changed. It became illegal for black and white people to be separated on buses in Montgomery.

